

Tropical Storm Cary was first observed as a area of increased convective activity east of the Palau Islands on the 25th of October. A Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert (TCFA) was issued a day later when the disturbance had moved to a position about halfway between Yap and the Palau Islands.

All convection associated with this circulation dissipated shortly afterward, however, leaving only an exposed low-level circulation center. Over the next 24 hours, the system moved west-northwestward toward the Philippines. Just east of the Phillippines, the convection again developed and 30 kt (15 m/sec) winds were reported from

coastal stations. Based on this information, a second TCFA was issued at 282200Z.

The circulation maintained its indentity as it passed over the Philippines just south of Clark AB and Subic Bay Naval Station. The first warning on TD 26 was issued at 291200Z as the disturbance was moving into the South China Sea. Tropical storm strength was reached 6 hours later.

Tropical Storm Cary moved west-north-westward and then west-southwestward in response to a low-level northeast monsoonal surge (Fig. 3-26-1) and eventually dissipated over Vietnam on 02 November.



FIGURE 3-26-1. Tropical Storm Cary near maximum intensity in the South China Sea. The surface center is partially exposed as indicated by the cumulus banding southeast of the main convection, 01 November 1980, 00332. (NOAA6 imagery)